

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached replacement drawing sheets makes changes to all the drawings and replace the sheets filed May 27, 2008.

Attachment: Replacement Sheets

REMARKS

Claims 1-6 and 8-39 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, the specification, the drawings, the Abstract and claims 1, 6 and 38 have been amended. Claim 1 is independent. The specification and the drawings are amended to delete Figs. 7(F), 7(G), 11(A), 11(B) and 14. No new matter is added. Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

Entry of the amendments is proper under 37 CFR §1.116 because the amendments: (a) place the application in condition for allowance (for the reasons discussed herein); (b) do not raise any new issue requiring further search and/or consideration (as the amendments amplify issues previously discussed throughout prosecution); and (c) place the application in better form for appeal, should an appeal be necessary. The amendments are necessary and were not earlier presented because they are made in response to arguments raised in the final rejection. Entry of the amendments is thus respectfully requested.

I. Allowable Subject Matter

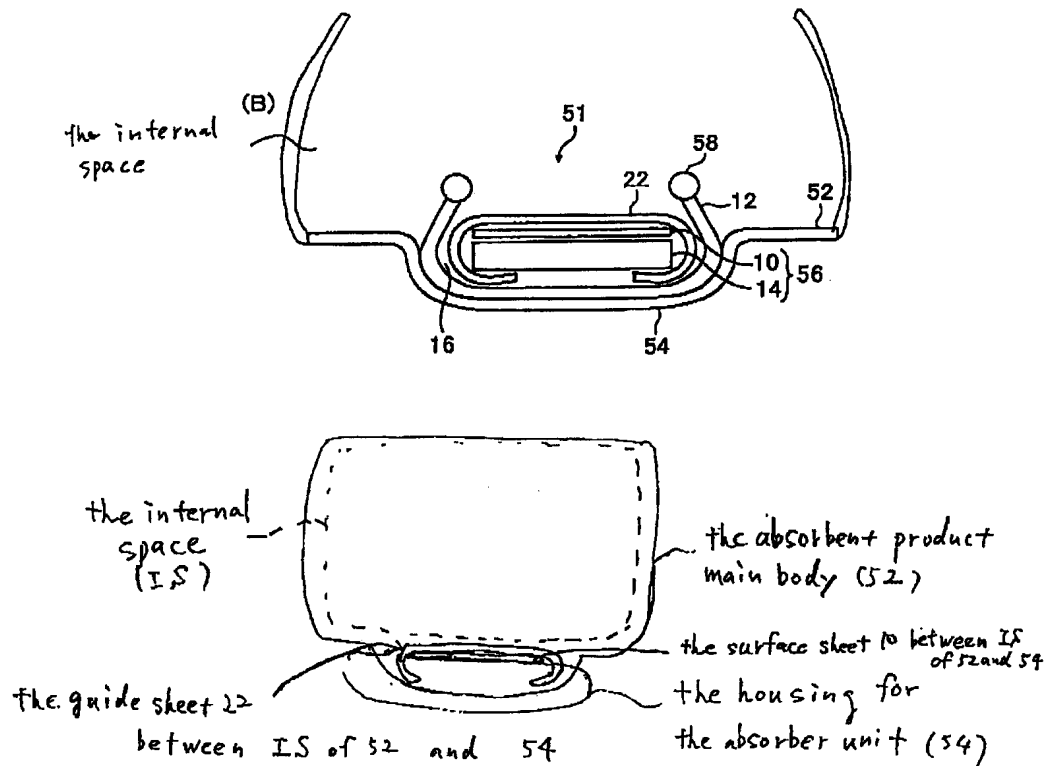
Applicants thank the Examiner for withdrawing the previous prior art rejections.

II. Objection to the Drawings

The Office Action objects to the drawings because the numbering of all the sheets of Figures have not been changed to reflect the proposed addition of two new sheets. All of the sheets have been renumbered to obviate the objection and replace the sheets filed May 27, 2008. Withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

The Office Action objects to Figs. 30(A) and 30(B) because Figs. 30(A) and 30(B) have not been labeled "PRIOR ART." Figs. 30(A) and 30(B) have been amended in accordance with the Examiner's suggestion. Withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

The Office Action objects to the drawing supporting claims 26, 27, 38 and 39 because the drawings must show every feature specified in the claims. This objection is traversed as discussed below.



The figures above, which are fully supported by Fig. 15(B), show that the surface sheet 10 and the guide sheet 22 are included in a portion between the internal space of the absorbent product main body 52 and the housing for the absorber unit 54. Thus the drawings show every feature of the invention specified in claims 26, 27, 38 and 39. Withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

III. Objection to the Specification Under 35 U.S.C. §112, First Paragraph

The Office Action objects to the specification under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph. Pages 41 and 43 of the specification are amended to obviate the rejection. Withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

IV. Objection to the Disclosure

The Office Action objects to the disclosure. Page 12 of the specification has been amended to obviate the objection. In addition, Figs. 7(F), 7(G), 11(A), 11(B) and 14 have also been deleted and the corresponding text has been amended/deleted from pages 12, 26, 28, 34, 35 and 39. Withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

The Office Action objects to the Abstract. The Abstract has been amended to obviate the objection. Withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

V. Objections to the Claims

The Office Action objects to claims 6, 27, 38 and 39. Claims 6 and 38 have been amended to obviate the objection. Withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

VI. Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §112, Second Paragraph

The Office Action rejects claims 1-6 and 8-39 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. Independent claim 1 has been amended to obviate the rejection. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

VII. Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §112, First Paragraph

The Office Action rejects claims 1-6 and 8-39 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph as failing to comply with the written description requirement. Independent claim 1 has been amended to obviate the rejection. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

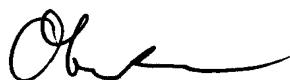
The Office Action rejects claims 1-6 and 8-39 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. Independent claim 1 has been amended to obviate the rejection. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

VIII. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-6 and 8-39 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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JAO:OHC/lmf

Attachments:

Amended Abstract
Replacement Drawing Sheets

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